

STUDIES IN THE DOCTRINE OF THE SPIRIT:

THE MULTIFACETED WORK OF THE SPIRIT



VALLEY GRACE BRETHREN CHURCH OF ARMAGH, PA
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 20TH, AD 2022

The LORD'S Day

The Twentieth Day of February, *in the Year of our Lord* 2022

Welcome to the worship services of Valley Grace Brethren Church!

Sunday School—9:30 AM.



As God's Church sheds its light abroad unto a lost and steadily purtifying civilization, we may well ask: "What *specific issues* should be held as vital and paramount in this day-and-age of "**Culture Wars**?"

Morning Worship—10:30 AM.

Call to Worship:* *"Spirit of the Living God"* (#83).

Invocation.*

Hymn: *"Praise Ye the Triune God"* (#24).

Prayer for Tithes & Offerings.

Scripture Reading: Mark 1:1-8.

Prayer, Praises, & Testimony.

Special Solo: Dennis Oliver (*"I Never Knew How it Felt"*).

Announcemnts.

Hymn: *"Turn Your Eyes upon Jesus"* (#87).

Dismissal of Youth for Children's Church.

Greeting One Another.

Message: *"THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT."*

Closing Hymn:* *"Blest Be the Tie that Binds"* (#74).

Benediction.*



**The Congregation will please arise, if able.*



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Downloadable audio mp3 messages at archive.org (@reesetpje)

Also check out our YouTube Channel (search "Terry Reese")!

Camp Mantowagan website: <https://www.campmantowagan.com>

Today's Verses for Reflection:

"I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them."—Ezekiel 36:27 (NKJV)



Week of Feb. 13-19

Sunday School—6; Morning Worship—17

Midweek—4; Church Offering: \$813.⁰⁰

Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study—6:30 PM.

Our studies in the Prophecy of Daniel continue with the account of Nebuchadnezzar's Dream of the Great Tree.



WINTER POTLUCK

Next Sunday, Feb. 27th, everyone is invited to enjoy the warm fellowship of our after-church potluck.

AFRICAN REPORT FROM PASTOR KEITH MERRIMAN (FEB. 11)

Dear beloved brethren,

Pastor Meshack Okoth (Mathare GBC, Nairobi, Kenya) contacted me and shared that Pastor Nelson (also a pastor at Mathare) and his family had a house fire and they lost everything. I am sending \$300 from the CGBCI to help with finding them a new place to live and to replace their belongings. One of the families in the church is allowing them to live with them temporarily and the church family purchased a mattress for them for the floor. Please pray for pastor Nelson and his family to get back to normal. If you would like to give something to help please send to Tom Johnson and mark it ***Emergency Relief - pastor Nelson***. Thanks and God bless, Keith

PS I have been in touch with Pastor Gilbert Amaswache who is our church planting coordinator in Kenya and he and his church (Kipsaina GBC) will help some also.

FROM FINLAND WITH LOVE: DO NOT PUBLICLY QUOTE THE BIBLE!

by Pastor Terry L. Reese, Valley GBC of Armagh, PA, 2/18/22

Pair of prominent Christians prosecuted for sharing the Bible's views on homosexuality

Päivi Räsänen, a former Finnish Interior Minister, Member of Parliament, physician, pastor's wife, mother of five and grandmother of seven, awaits a verdict after being prosecuted by the Finnish government for "hate crimes," claiming that she insulted and incited intolerance of LGBTQI+ people by tweeting **Rom. 1:24-27**—thereby succinctly expressing her disagreement with the Lutheran church's sponsorship of an LGBT pride event in 2019.

Prosecutors also focused upon her published 2004 booklet entitled "*Male and Female He Created Them*," as well as a 2019 TV interview in which she expressed similar views.

The 3-year ordeal included Räsänen enduring 13 hours of interrogation at the hands of the Finnish police, and her trial has featured the surreal imagery of a Christian woman being grilled by secular prosecutors in a secular court regarding the details of Christian theology.

"YOU ARE ALLOWED IN YOUR MIND TO AGREE WITH THE BIBLE,
BUT YOU CAN'T STATE IT PUBLICLY."—PAIVI RÄSÄNEN

Also placed on trial is Lutheran Bishop **Juhana Pohjola**, who was charged with "*ethnic agitation*" for making Räsänen's pamphlet available on his website. If convicted, the pair could be facing fines, and even **two years imprisonment**.

This case represents yet another chapter in the sad saga of so-called advanced, liberal, progressive western democratic nations shredding the God-given rights of Christian people and attempting to bully them out of the public square.

Reflecting upon the experience, Räsänen views the ongoing ordeal as the outworking of Divine Providence:

"I was happy to have the possibility to also tell the gospel—the solution to the problem of sin—in front of the court and in front of the media." "...I thought it was a privilege to stand for the freedom of speech and the freedom of religion and stand for the truth of the Bible."